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Wiki 3

Statement of the Problem:

The population of ESL students has increased throughout the New York City public school system, and continues to rise. Students from countries throughout the world are attending our schools, and faced with many challenges, both academic and social. Students suffer from performance anxiety and lack of verbal communication skills due to language barriers. Students experience discomfort when speaking among native English speakers, in fear of making a mistake in pronunciation, usage, or comprehension. In order for ESL students to learn and master the English language, the learning atmosphere must provide comfort and promote student interaction and involvement. Students need a learning environment that encourages the usage of verbal communication skills. The ESL student population must overcome performance anxiety, and improve their ability to communicate using the English language.

Research Hypothesis:

Hypothesis 1: Integrating smartboards in sixth grade ESL English Language Arts curriculum in P.S. X, in Brooklyn, New York, for a six week period, three times a week, will decrease the ESL students’ level of performance anxiety.

Hypothesis 2: Integrating smartboards in sixth grade ESL English Language Arts curriculum in P.S. X, in Brooklyn, New York, for a six week period, three times a week, will improve the ESL students’ verbal interaction skills.

References:

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